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2002 FORD ESCAPE - power windows & locks - tilt - cruise - extra clean

2003 FORD CROWN VICTORIA LX - leather interior

1992 CHEVROLET SILVERADO - crew cab - 4 X 4 - leather - loaded - local trade

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Kyla Anderson
celebrates her
third birthdayINSIDE
Barbie-Flowers
announce
September
wedding plansINSIDE
Nell Harvson of
Elba receives
ARSEA award

The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 7

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 31, 2003

1 Section, 12 Pages

Life of Sergeant Jason D. Jordan honored during funeral service

by Linda Hodge, Editor

More than 500 family members and friends gathered in the Victoria community of Coffee County Sunday afternoon, July 27, to honor the life and career of Sergeant Jason David Jordan as his funeral services were held from Victoria Baptist Church with graveside services in the church cemetery.

Sgt. Jordan was killed one week prior on Sunday, July 20, in Tallifair, Iraq when the vehicle he was traveling in was ambushed and struck by rocket-propelled grenades. Also killed was his friend and fellow soldier, Sgt. Justin W. Garvey of Townsend, Mass.

Jordan's untimely death came

just three days following his 24th birthday. Jason was able to accomplish during his life here on earth.

He is survived by his parents, Danny and Sandra Jordan, his brother and sister-in-law, Chris and Marsha Jordan; his paternal grandparents, H.L. and Virginia Jordan; his maternal grandparents, Sam and Irene Davis; nephews, Blake and Caleb; and niece, Montana and great grandmother, Helen A. Ward.

It is with great sadness and heartache that we laid to rest today our beloved son, brother, uncle and grandson, Jason David Jordan," read a statement from the family during Sunday's funeral service.

Jordan's untimely death came

Jason D. Jordan
1979-2003

and always having a smile on his face.

After high school, Jordan attended Enterprise State Junior College for one year where he began studies for a degree in chemical engineering. In June 1998, he chose to enlist in the United States Army and reported in August 1998 to the U.S. Army Infantry Center at Fort Benning, Ga. for training.

Jordan graduated from his training in December 1998 and was assigned to duty in the Republic of Korea. He reported to the 2nd Infantry Division on Jan. 19, 1999 and served with a mortar squad in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry.

He completed a one year tour and was re-assigned Jan. 2000 to the 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Riley, Kansas. Here, Jordan served with the Mortar Platoon of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team. During this tour, his unit was deployed from Aug. to Dec. 2001 to Kuwait for training.

On Sept. 1, 2001 Jordan was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and assumed the duties and responsibilities of Squad Leader with his unit.

In July 2002, Sgt. Jordan received his assignment to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Ky. where he served as a Squad Leader with Headquarters and

Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment.

On March 1, 2003, Jordan was deployed with his unit to Kuwait in preparation of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He

participated in the ground combat operations which liberated the people of Iraq and ended the regime of Saddam Hussein.

Please See JORDAN, Page 2

The Honor Detail (pallbearers and rifle squad) for Sgt. Jordan's funeral was from the U.S. Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker. Upon arrival at Victoria Baptist Church for the funeral service, the soldiers somberly carried the remains of their comrade. Flag folding details at graveside were carried out by members from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) of Fort Campbell, Ky. - the company in which Sgt. Jordan served.

Additional personnel changes approved
Coffee County Schools preparing for 2003-04 school year

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Board of Education fine-tuned its personnel list for the upcoming school year when board members met for a special meeting Friday, July 25, at Noon.

With the first day of school fast approaching, board members approved some personnel changes with certified and support personnel including several employees, a couple of transfers and resignations.

The personnel matters were unanimously approved by the board upon the recommendation of Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram and included:

Certified

* Transfer Carla Bailey from her position as third grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School to second grade teacher at the same school.

* Transfer Brenda Roberts from her position as fifth grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School to ARI Reading Coach at Zion Chapel School.

* Employ Jackie Metcalf as a fifth grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School.

* Employ Suzanne Rhodes as a third grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School.

* Employ Shelia Johnson as a third grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School.

* Employ DeAnn Wallace as a fourth grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School.

* Employ Dana Padgett as a sixth grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School.

* In regards to the unitary decree, Ingram said attorney Jim Weatherford recommended acquiring the assistance of the law firm Marsh, Cotter and Doice Jones.

In regards to the unitary decree, Ingram said attorney Jim Weatherford recommended acquiring the assistance of the law firm Marsh, Cotter and Doice Jones.

* Employ Bren Finch as a

social studies teacher at New Brockton High School.

* Employ Barbara Williams as a special education teacher at Kinston School.

* Employ Bobby Hartwell as assistant principal at Zion Chapel School.

* Employ Amber Carnley as a fourth grade teacher at Zion Chapel School.

* Employ Ginger Vinson as a fifth grade teacher at Zion Chapel School.

* Employ Lori Caldwell as a special education teacher at Zion Chapel School.

* Grant permission to accept the resignation of Wanda Corley, special education teacher at Zion Chapel School, so that she can accept employment with another school system.

* Grant permission to fill the special education vacancy created by the above resignation. The vacancy will be filled by employing the next highest scoring applicant available.

* Transfer Kristi Wilkerson as a fifth grade teacher at Zion Chapel School.

* Employ Nineet Wood as a CNP worker at Kinston School.

The only other matters requiring a vote from the board during the special meeting included nominations to the Board of Equalization and a recommendation concerning the unitary decree.

The board unanimously approved submitting three names for consideration to the Board of Equalization. The names for submission include:

* Lynn Bailey, Dennis Smith and Doice Jones.

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EDITORIAL

JORDAN

(Continued from Page One)

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

We have now heard experts speaking for and against the tax package Alabama citizens will be voting on in September. After representatives from both the pro and the con sides each gave at least 45 minutes of "facts", Governor Bob Riley capped it all off with his spin on the issue. Now... we are not much better off than before either of them spoke. Sure, we have more facts in the old noggin, but some of those things that were presented as facts conflict with something the other side said. A good friend, who also serves in the state legislature, was one of the many visitors at the press convention and whispered to us during that meeting Sunday morning that both sides had made some "misleading statements". All that tends to confuse (and scare) many folks, including this country newspaper writer.

For those who are convinced this package is the salvation of the world, or at least Alabama, right now you appear to be in trouble. We still find less than a majority of local folks who are willing to support the new taxes. Add to that, Governor Riley himself said Sunday morning that his polls are showing West Alabama voters are even stronger against the proposals. It is time to seriously start considering "Plan B".

What is "Plan B"? It probably will include a "temporary" one cent sales tax, some cuts, etc. However there is a question of "will the lawmakers pass new taxes on a group of people who have just voted down tax increases?". It is going to be interesting to watch.



The Alabama Retired State Employees' Association announces that Opal Rounsvall of Scottsboro, Dot Howell of Mobile and Nell Harrison of Elba received the association's Angel Award at its 2003 annual convention in Opelika recently. This award is given to ARSEA members performing outstanding service on behalf of Alabama's local government retirees. Harrison is retired from the Coffee County Commission and sits on the ARSEA Board of Directors. Pictured left to right: Opal Rounsvall from Scottsboro, Nell Harrison from Elba, Dorothy Howell from Mobile and ARSEA President Max Davis.

Upcoming Benefits:

There will be a benefit singing and a cake auction for Jeremiah Prettyman on Saturday, August 2, at the Elba High School Auditorium at 6:00 p.m. Master's Call and other groups will be in concert. For more information call 897-2791.

A benefit will be held for Lexy Rugg, two-year-old cancer patient on Sat., August 9, 2003 at American Legion on Troy Hwy. in Elba, Ala. beginning at 4 p.m. until Fish and BBQ plates will be sold for \$5.00 donation. There will be an auction and live entertainment. Featuring many groups including: Bureaucracy, Montgomery, Amy and Ray Bundy, Flora, The Gospeleeter, Andalusia, Robert Williamson, Flora, Ron Taylor, Red Level, Dixieland Cloggers and many more. Donations are greatly appreciated. Any items donated for the auction will be greatly appreciated.

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Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 Months - \$11

Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

"We take great pride in our country and his decision to serve this great nation of ours in the United States Army," Jason's family's statement said. "Jason

strongly believed in what he was doing, serving in the armed forces to keep America safe and strong. He was helping to bring freedom and democracy to an oppressed people and put an end

to a dictatorship that threatened the peace and stability of the world."

While offering comforting words for Jordan's many family members and friends in attendance for Sunday's funeral service, Rev. King spoke of the many individualized traits that made Jordan the person he was, however, he said the most important decision the young man made during his life was as a teenager when he chose Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

"Today, life goes on for Jason in another world, the world we know as Heaven," King said. "Upon being deployed in

March, King said Jordan admitted he did not know what his fate would be, but whatever, he would accept it.

"War occurs when human freedom is at stake and sometimes we must get involved," King said. "Jason did his part."

On Sunday, the community not only paid respect to a soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice so that all Americans can continue to live free and in safety, it paid tribute to a native son who was all he could be.

"All we have given something, few give all," King said. "Jason gave all. Thank you, Jason."

MILITARY AWARDS AND HONORS FOR
SGT. JASON DAVID JORDAN

Awards & Decorations Received During Five Years of Service

Army Commendation Medal
Army Achievement Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters
Army Good Conduct Medal
National Defense Service Medal
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
NCO Professional Development Ribbon

Army Service Ribbon
Overseas Service Ribbon
Expert Infantryman Badge
Air Assault Badge
Expert Marksmanship Badges for the M16 rifle and the hand grenade

Sgt. Jason's Posthumous Military Awards (presented
graveside to the Jordan Family)

Bronze Star Medal
Purple Heart Medal
Combat Infantryman Badge

Alabama State Posthumous Awards

Distinguished Service Medal
Commissioned by the Governor of Alabama

Lordy, Lordy
Little Sister's

40
Happy Birthday
Debbie

This UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter from Lowe Army Heliport in Fort Rucker provided a fly-by at the conclusion of the graveside service for Sgt. Jason David Jordan. Sgt. Jordan's father is a shift supervisor & firefighter with the Lowe Army Heliport Fire Station.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department began Monday, July 21, 2003, investigating the following incidents: one possession of drug paraphernalia, one burglary, three for theft of property, three for possession of marijuana, one domestic violence and one assault.

The following arrests were made: one for failure to appear, four for possession of marijuana, one for failure to pay one for domestic violence and one for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: four for not wearing a seat belt; one for driving with a suspended driver's license and one for no proof of insurance.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, JULY 21 - River stage - 8.19 feet (6:02 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 739 Lee St. (6:40 a.m.); Alarm activated at 450 Forest Hill Drive (4:05 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 401 Adkinson (7:26 p.m.)

TUESDAY, JULY 22 - River stage - 7.15 feet (6:18 a.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23 - River stage - 7.07 feet (6:00 a.m.); Alarm activated at 450

THURSDAY, JULY 24 - River stage - 7.91 feet (6:00 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 189 N. (2:58 a.m.); Minor wreck reported at Kelley Foods building (4:19 a.m.); River stage - 8.32 feet (6:05 a.m.).

SATURDAY, JULY 26 - Domestic disturbance reported on Putnam St. (11:50 a.m.); River stage - 7.95 feet (6:25 a.m.); Routine activity.

SUNDAY, JULY 27 - River stage - 7.42 feet (6:23 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 2632 County Rd. 355 (5:08 p.m.).

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

The Korean Singing Ambassadors to be in concert at Elba First Baptist Church on August 3

The Korea Singing Ambassadors will be in the area July 30 - Aug. 4 performing. On Sunday, Aug. 3,

the group will be at the Elba First Baptist Church at 6 p.m. There are 20 adults in one choir and 20 youth in another. They may perform together. Everyone is invited to attend.

Shiloh Baptist Church plans Homecoming & Revival services

Shiloh Baptist Church will hold Homecoming and Revival Services on Sunday, August 3. The former pastor Larry Wise will

bring the morning message. A covered dish lunch will be served at noon. Singing in the afternoon at 2:00. Revival

August 4-8 at 7:00 nightly. The guest speaker will be Bruce Williams. Everyone is invited to attend.

New Life Worship Center announces Revival services set For August 3-4

New Life Worship Center announces special revival services with Evangelist Joey Hipp of Mobile, Ala. The service dates are August 3-4, 2003. The service will start on Sunday at

10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and on Monday at 7:00 p.m. The church is located at 206 South Magnolia Street in Samson, Ala. Pastor Jack Chancey invites everyone to attend. A nursery

will be provided for all services. For more information or directions call 334-898-7699 or email newlife@alaweb.com or www.newlifewc-ag.com.

Area wide Youth Convention planned at First Assembly of God in Enterprise for August 1 & 2

Area wide youth convention will be held August 1 and 2 at First Assembly of God in Enterprise. Each service will

begin at 7:00 p.m. with praise and worship. There will be special music and guest speaker, Greg Atkins. Youth fellowship,

79th Homecoming & Revival coming up at Dorcas Baptist Church

Dorcas Baptist Church will be celebrating their 79th annual Homecoming and Revival Services.

Homecoming will be Sunday, August 3. Rev. Randall Johnson will be delivering the morning message.

Lunch will follow in the fellowship hall of the church.

Everybody is welcome.

Dorcas Baptist Church is located at 1733 County Road 110, Jack.

For further information call Margaret Johnson at 897-2337.

Rev. Randall Johnson will be the guest evangelist.

The Standifiers from Powder Springs, Georgia will be singing in the afternoon.

Revival services will be August 4 - 8, beginning each night at 7:00.

Activities and food will follow.

For more information call 347-8447.

Rev. Randall Johnson will be the guest evangelist.

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LIFESTYLES

Elizabeth Bedsole
named to Who's
Who in 2003



The 2003 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges includes the names of 25 students from Huntington College who have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders.

Campus nominating committees and editors of the annual directory have included the names of these students based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success. They join an elite group of students from more than 2,300 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign nations.

Outstanding students have been honored in the annual directory since it was first published in 1934. Huntington College students who are listed in the 2003 directory are all members of the Class of 2003. They include Catherine Elizabeth Bedsole of Elba.

•

Gabriela Morrow
is two years old

Gabriela Morrow celebrated her second birthday on July 21. On Saturday July 19 family and friends helped her celebrate. The theme was "Elmo" she had lots of fun.

Gabriela is the daughter of Karen and Kent Morrow of McDonough, Ga. Grandparents are Margie and Floyd Morrow of Elba.

Parker Reunion
planned for Saturday,
August 9th

The Parker Reunion will be held Saturday, August 9, 2003 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Farm Center in New Brockton. Attendees are asked to bring a covered dish and a beverage. Bring family history information and pictures.

**EXPRESS YOUR
VIEWS
WRITE A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR**

**Benefit to be held for two year
old Lexy Rugg Saturday, Aug 9**

A benefit will be held for Lexy Rugg, two-year-old cancer patient, on Sat., August 9, 2003 at American Legion on Troy Hwy. in Elba, Ala. beginning at 4 p.m. until. Fish and BBQ plates will be sold for \$5.00 donation. There will be an auction and live entertainment. Featuring many groups including: Bureaucracy, Montgomery; Amy and Ray Bundy, Flora.

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**Deadline For Social
News Is Monday!**

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SPORTS

**Views from...
THE PRESSBOX**
By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The Mularz family snuck out of town for a few days last week for a late-summer vacation, and now the time has come for Mom and the girls to get ready to get back in the daily grind of heading back to school. So far all we have bought is a new back pack for Melanie, but there are still a few days left before the school bell rings and I am sure they can add some new clothes to their wardrobes. I hate to shop with the girls, but do like to know where the money goes and also like to have at least a little say into what they buy. Oh yea, they also let me drive!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

The high school football season will kick off in less than a month, but for the coaches and players the season will begin this week when the teams hold picture day and then take to the field to get in the first of three days of conditioning. No one ever knows what to expect before the season actually begins. However, here is a preview after a summer of listening to area fans talk about their teams...

* Elba Tigers - The Tigers lost some key seniors off last year's team, but return a group of blue collar players that are willing to work hard and have never received a lot of publicity. While there are a couple of key holes to fill, Elba might be better than most think and should get better as the season rolls along. Nothing will come easy for Tigers in '03, but this bunch won't care and won't back down from the challenge.

* Zion Chapel Rebels - The Rebels have a new coach that believes in doing things the right way, and even though no one up in the North part of the county is doing back flips in anticipation of a state title, the Rebels and their fans are optimistic that better days are ahead. The key at Zion Chapel will be getting the students and building support for the athletic program in the community and in the halls.

* New Brockton Gamecocks - The Gamecocks got a taste of success last season and have worked hard in the off-season to make sure this year they get an even bigger slice of the pie. While the Gamecocks did lose some key players to graduation, they have back a group of young men that have grown up together and know what it is like to go to battle with each other. It should make a difference.

* Kinston Bulldogs - The Bulldogs have made huge strides in recent years and this season should be another one in which the 'Dogs scratch and fight their way to their share of wins. The name Kinston might never strike fear into the hearts of area football teams, but Kinston has proven it can win in football and this season should once again surprise some teams as the year rolls along. Expect this bunch of Bulldogs to do more than just compete.

* Brantley Bulldogs - The Bulldogs from Crenshaw County are hungry for a bunch of wins and the Bulldog fans are already talking about making a trip to Birmingham to win the state championship. While Brantley should be improved and might be a state title contender, the Bulldogs do have a few key holes to fill and will have to remain focused week in and week out. These 'Dogs can hunt, but it will be a long road and there are always bumps along the way.

*** While everyone knows that it is time for football practice to begin at high schools across the state, girls at those same schools

VIEWS

SPORTS

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

will also begin practicing to get ready for the first serve, volley and strike of the volleyball season. Coach Amelia Rhoades will begin her third season at the helm in Elba and she should be the year the Lady Tigers take a giant step forward and make their mark on the prep volleyball scene. When Coach Rhoades came to Elba after leading Kinston to the top of the volleyball world, many thought the veteran coach would instantly turn the Elba program into a state contender. That didn't happen, however, and over the last two seasons the Lady Tigers struggled to their fewest wins in over a decade. Now that Coach Rhoades has had three years to get her program established, maybe the time has come for the Lady Tigers to move forward and become the 3A power that everyone has been expecting to see for the past two seasons. It should be an interesting year.

*** A lot of area sports fans were more than a little surprised last week when it was announced that former Enterprise basketball coach Sam Weeks had accepted the head basketball position at G.W. Long High School. Coach Weeks will remain as a teacher at Enterprise, but after the school bell rings in the afternoon he will jump in the car and head over to Skipperville to help lead the Rebels. Coach Weeks was a winner at Enterprise and wasn't ready to get out of coaching when he got up the ranks with the Wildcarts and over the years it has been easy to see that he really wanted to get back on the court. I am sure Coach Weeks will be successful at G.W. Long, but I will be interested to see if he treats the referees any better after wearing the striped shirt for the past several years. In years past he was very vocal about officials, and now that he has run up and down the court a few hundred times, I wonder if things will change in the Rebels' coaching box. Good luck Sam, you are my hero!

*** While on the subject of college football, new Alabama Coach Mike Shula upset a few media folks last week when he announced he would close all Crimson Tide practices this season at Tuscaloosa. Coach Shula stated that due to the short time the team had to learn a new system, it was important that the players not be distracted. That is true, but the guess here is that Bama's new coach also wants to keep his opponents guessing as long as possible about just what the Tide will do this season. I think it was a good move and one that will pay early dividends for the Crimson Tide.

*** In closing...I took the family to an Atlanta Braves game last week and we all got to see Sammy Sosa and the Cubs' clubber the Braves in front of a near sell out crowd. It's always fun to attend a Major League game and be a part of the atmosphere that surrounds the game, but after last week I do have a suggestion for the Braves officials. I wish the stadium would have a "No Drinking" area for fans that don't like the smell of beer or the fans that think they have to drink non-stop and then get loud. We sat behind four men that were more than a little under the influence when they arrived at the park, and then never let one cup go dry before they ordered the next round. Of course they also made countless trips to the rest room to make room for more refreshments, and that meant everyone around us had to make room and try to watch the game around their visits. The seats don't have to be the best in the stadium, but it would be nice to be able to sit down and not worry about beer spilling on your shoes. It looks like having to pay \$7.00 for a beer would slow folks down, but not in the minors. Fans have to go to the walkways to smoke, but they can drink anywhere they wish, and for some of us that is just as much of a bother. I know it will never happen, but it would make the game more enjoyable for some of us.

As pre-season drills open

Elba's Coach Mike Waters believes coaches and players are ready to hit the practice field

The Elba Tigers will pull on

their pads on Friday, August 1, for their annual "Picture Day," and Coach Mike Waters admits that he and his staff are ready to get to work in preparation for the upcoming high school football season.

"Last year's 5-5 record left a sour taste in our mouth," stated Coach Waters, in his third year at the Elba helm, "and then we were disappointed with the low number of players that came out for spring training. The numbers

were up for summer conditioning; however, and when practice opens next week everyone will be focused on the future and not worry about what might have happened in the past. I think this bunch is ready to get to work."

Last year's Tigers were

expected to challenge for the

region title after posting seven

wins and advancing to the sec-

ond round of the state playoffs

in 2001, but after opening with

10 losses and then winning

four of their last five games, the

Tigers closed out the season

with a 5-5 record and missed out

on a return trip to the playoffs.

"We all know that we will

once again compete in the

toughest region in the state,"

admitted Waters, "and also

know that no one will expect us

to win many football games.

That may actually be an ad-

vantage for us, because after last

season some of our oppo-

nents will look at Elba on the

schedule and mark down a win.

I assure you this coaching staff

will work as hard as any team in

the state and when they take the

field on Friday night they will

expect to win and will play to

win. We all know that every

game will be a battle, but we

will work hard to get ready for

each and every battle and will

play hard when they kick it off."

"Our schedule will be the

same as a year ago," said Coach

Waters, "and that means our

players will get to line up against

some of the top teams in the

state. Brantley is the only TA

team on the schedule, but the

Bulldogs are expected to win

the state title and are loaded at

just about every position, while

W.S. Neal, Pike County, T.R.

Miller and Straughn all believe

they have a real shot at winning

the 3A title. Last year T.R.

Miller finished third in the

region and then won the state

championship. That should tell

you how tough this region is!

Clarke County is back and real-

ly good. We are all looking for-

ward to the beginning of prac-

tice and the upcoming season."

Auburn on their 2003 schedules, there can be no doubt the Trojans know all about "money games." This season Troy State will challenge such major college powers as Kansas State, Minnesota, Nebraska and Virginia, and must at the same time try to win while also trying to stay healthy. There are four future Sun Belt foes on the schedule in North Texas, Middle Tennessee, Utah State and Louisiana Monroe, and by the end of the season the Trojans and their fans will have a good idea of just what lies ahead in seasons to come. The guess here is that Troy State will enjoy many sunny days in the Sun Belt Conference.

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SPORTS

Youth football sign-up deadline is Aug. 8.

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation began registration for youth football on Monday, July 14 and continue the registration until Friday, August 8. Three teams will compete this fall, and the team with the most wins will be the champion. For more information call the Recreation office at 897-6833.

Two-month PACT enrollment period begins August 1

PACT is based on a simple concept - pay today for tomorrow's tuition," stated Treasurer Ivey. "With college tuition skyrocketing, parents and grandparents can find no better bargain than PACT to save for a child's future college education."

The PACT Program gives parents and grandparents of infants through ninth graders the ability to purchase a contract for the pre-payment of 135 semester hours of tuition and 8 semesters of fees at Alabama's public colleges cost a student today about \$16,000. Ivey further explained that parents may purchase a PACT contract for an infant child for a lump sum of \$15,364 compared to the projected cost of tuition and fees in 2021 of \$74,097.

The PACT Program features

Men's open softball tournament August 16 in Enterprise

The Enterprise Parks and Recreation Department will host a "Men's Open" Softball Tournament on August 16, at Donaldson Park. Trophies will be presented to the top three teams and t-shirts will be given to the members of the winning team. The entry fee is \$130 per team, and the first 10 teams to enter will be accepted. The deadline to enter is August 13. The tournament will feature pool play, with all teams guaranteed four games. The teams in each game will determine the number of home-runs allowed, with the minimum being five and the maximum being nine. To enter call the Recreation Department at 348-2681 or Jason Smith at 347-7882.

Flag football league set for Enterprise

Ivey noted that 135 semester hours of tuition and 8 semesters of fees at Alabama's public colleges cost a student today about \$16,000. Ivey further explained that parents may purchase a PACT contract for an infant child for a lump sum of \$15,364 compared to the projected cost of tuition and fees in 2021 of \$74,097.

The PACT Program features

Let's Go... Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist

Catching Hot Weather Crappie

Spring is definitely the favorite time for crappie fishermen across Alabama, but summer can yield some nice catches as well. Admittedly, few of us want to sit in a boat during the middle of the day in July and August, so we have to change our routine a little.

Mid-summer crappies can be found near food sources such as insects, crayfish and especially baitfish such as small bluegills, minnows and shad. The pH of water can also influence their location.

Studies reveal that the black crappie is found in more acidic water with a pH of less than seven. The white crappie favors water with a pH of seven or greater. The two are easily confused especially when the male white crappie turns darker during spawning season. To differentiate between the two look at the way the spots or blotches are arranged. The white crappie has spots or blotches arranged in vertical bands while the black crappie are irregular.

Another clue is the dorsal spines. Black crappies have seven or eight hard dorsal spines while the white crappie has five or six hard dorsal spines. The white crappie has a dished head, the black crappie doesn't.

The best places to look for crappie, especially during daylight hours, is anywhere that affords them shade. Boat docks, bridges, docked barges or thick aquatic weeds that offer shade, cooler water, and are attractive to bait fish that crappie feed on.

If the water is deep enough, vertical jigs with minnows or jigs can be productive. Several years ago I had to attend

an annual Big Buck Round-Up and Hunting Expo will be held on August 10-11 at the national Peanut Festival Fairgrounds, in Dothan. Thousands are expected to attend the event from all across the Southeast, and this year's expo will also be a food drive that will benefit the Wiregrass Area Food Bank.

Admission is \$7 adults and children under age 11 will be admitted free with two cans of food (or \$3). For more information call 334-673-0083.

NEXT WEEK IN SPORTS...
A LOOK AT AREA FOOTBALL SCHEDULES FOR 2003

Shoal Creek Park (Downtown Jack, AL)

NOW OPEN

Mobile Home Lots Available

(Within walking distance of Zion Chapel Schools)

Contact Scott Brown (334) 897-6279

Electricity is a powerful force that we use every day. But no one, especially kids, should forget that electricity can be dangerous, even deadly, if we don't obey some basic safety rules.

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